

Woman Faces Forcible Ouster from School Site

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'CENSORSHIP' MAY STIR ROW



REDEEM LAND—Farmers Sam Kishimoto, Tom and Bill Kita, stand by pump, provided by city, to drain their farm land which has stood inundated for the past two months in the Welteria Lake area. Farmers will supply manpower, and city the equipment, to drain water in order to make land arable again. Farmers mostly plant celery crops.

New Councilmen to Be Seated Tuesday

Two Councilmen-elect sat in at Wednesday's Council meeting to get a preview of action to come when they are invested in office next Tuesday.

Mayor Albert Isen invited J. A. Beasley and George Bradford to sit on the dais with them and to participate in the discussion.

Count Ballots

The two new council members will be seated officially Tuesday after the "lame duck" city fathers have completed the canvass of the municipal election.

Councilman Willys Blount predicted that the laborious process of checking the results of the April 8 election could be done in about an hour.

He said that a speedy system had been learned in the 1956 election.

City officials have already authorized an addition to the dais which will make seating arrangements for the seven member Council more comfortable.

Extend Dais

Each end of the raised podium will be extended by 2 1/2 feet. New, swivel chairs for the two additional councilmen have already arrived.

Under the Council custom of calling the roll in alphabetical order, fledgling Councilman Beasley will be under the gun first.

Next will be Victor Benstead, Blount, Bradford, Draie and Jahn, with Mayor Isen last.

Despite the change in election of the mayor directly by the people, and adding two more councilmen, there will be no change in councilmanic procedures.

Watch for Press Cleanup List

As a special service to home owners, the Torrance Press will publish a check list of spring clean-up and refurbishing tasks that face many residents in Thursday's issue.

The idea is to make your home more attractive, more comfortable and more valuable.

Engineer to Study Crenshaw Work

A request for the widening of Crenshaw Blvd. between 176th and 182nd st., was shelved for one week until City Engineer Ronald, Bishop presents a report to the City Council.

Recommendation for the improvement came from the North Torrance Civic Improvement Association.

Although its president, John G. L. Crain and residents appeared before the Council to express concern over hazards of the present roadway, the Council postponed a hearing until they receive the engineer's report.

Monday Deadline Ordered

Peggy Barbara Swick was served with an eviction order late Friday ordering her to move out of her house by 10 a.m. Monday or be faced with forcible ouster.

The woman has consistently refused to budge from her two-acre property at 234 W. 182nd st., which has been condemned by the Torrance Unified School District as part of the 10-acre Hamilton School site.

Unsafe Site

Miss Swick, who said she has resided there for 17 years, claims that the speeding traffic on 182nd st., makes it an extremely hazardous location for a school.

She was served with the eviction notice at 6 p.m. Friday by a deputy sheriff, accompanied to the scene by two Torrance policemen.

"I don't know what to do, I have money to go any place. I'm not going to a public shelter, I have never been on charity in all my life," declared Miss Swick.

She said the price she receives for her property, \$37,000, is not enough to give her a down payment on another place, because of obligations she has incurred on her present property.

Cheaper Site

"The day after they started condemnation against me, they started building a subdivision across the street," she said.

Miss Swick insisted that the school board, could have purchased land across the street for \$100,000 less, since it was vacant at the time.

Miss Swick will have to find a new home for herself, her two horses, 11 dogs, two parakeets and an uncounted number of chickens, if the eviction order sticks.

Go to Board

She said she will again appear before the Board of Education Tuesday night to protest that the school site is unsafe, and that two other schools are located only a short distance from where she resides.

The Board is expected to award contract for the Hamilton School Tuesday night, since bids have already been opened.

When Miss Swick refused to move, the Board served an ultimatum on her that it will seek a court order to evict her by force, if necessary.

Three Burglaries On Police Report

Three burglaries, including one at Torrance High School, were reported to police Friday night.

A movie projector, valued at \$80, was stolen from Torrance High School.

An undetermined amount of change was stolen from the home of Gladys Mothersell, 1424 Aca-cia ave., while a tire was taken from the car of William R. Howard, 18229 Regina st., while it was parked at Harvey Aluminum Company.

Special Interest Clubs Steer Students Into 'Tough' Courses

A novel program to stimulate the interest of gifted students is now in its third month at Riviera Elementary School.

Known as the High Interest High Ability Club program, all students from the fourth through eighth grades are drawn into the one hour a week club sessions in an effort to prevent shirking of "tough" courses when they reach the high school level.

The emphasis in the nearly 20 clubs is on academic subjects, Principal D. K. Duncan explained.

"We like to get them interested early so they won't be frightened of harder courses when they get to high school," he said.

Once a Week

All of the nearly 800 students belong to one of the special in-

terest clubs which meet every Thursday afternoon after the primary graders have been dismissed for the day.

Clubs include such academic subjects as physics, chemistry, mathematics, zoology, Spanish and French, creative writing on the academic scale.

Each of the clubs is instructed by a teacher who has had special college background in the subject. Some high school students, high school teachers and even parents have attended club meetings to lecture on a subject in which they have a professional background, Duncan said.

Study Period

Not all clubs are devoted to academic matters. There are such subjects as audio-visual, photography, art, and those students who do not want to join

one of the organizations may take study hall.

"We're pushing the academic subjects," the principal explained.

Although students have a free choice in the club they wish to join, Duncan observed that the bright youngsters are "pushed" into one of the tougher subjects, usually on teachers' or parental suggestion.

"Kids at this age have a terrific curiosity. What we want to do is to keep this curiosity alive," Duncan said.

Small Groups

In the club programs, the teachers work with small groups, averaging about 25 students. The principal effort is to show the boys and girls that the academic subjects can be enjoyable, so that they keep their interest in it when they enter high school. Beside the lectures and group

participation in the clubs, each student is given a weekly home assignment.

Club members are lumped together, regardless of age group.

"We've found some fifth graders who are sharp enough that the eighth graders have to bring forth a real effort to keep up with them," Duncan said.

He said that all parents were notified of the program and most of them have backed it quite enthusiastically.

Many of them, including college graduates, have offered their help in the club program, the principal said.

He explained that the faculty has been working on the program for nearly two years, but was unable to put it in effect until two months ago, when the school was taken off double sessions.

Ordinance On Mags Ordered

Questions of constitutionality may arise when City Attorney Stanley Remelmeier completes drafting an ordinance which is designed to keep obscene material from minors.

The City Council ordered the attorney to prepare a law for their consideration on request of the Self-Censorship Committee whose spokesman declared that the present ordinance is ineffectual.

Dr. D. G. Cortum said that police are not enforcing the present ordinance against sex, girlie, nudist and photo magazines because they do not want to be placed in the position of judging obscenity.

Continue Group

Dr. Cortum, spokesman for the Self-Censorship Committee, which was appointed following a row over lurid magazines on sales to minors, also urged that the committee be continued to act as a clearing house for questionable material.

"We are not trying to burn any books," Dr. Cortum said.

He explained that the committee feels that while they do not wish to infringe on the rights of adults, they do believe that objectionable material should not be available on news stands where any minor can buy it.

He asked that the new law contain a provision that photo and art magazines only be sold in art stores, and health magazines only in health stores as a way to keep them away from youngsters.

List Crimes

Dr. Cortum also asked the city to adopt a similar ordinance as the one now in existence in Ontario. This law prohibits sale of magazines depicting brutal crimes, and lists them specifically.

The committee also objected to the recent movie "Mobs and Dad" which was shown at a local drive-in theater.

Dr. Cortum said that the committee felt that if the film was to be shown, it should have been done in a regular theater with segregated audiences.

Fly By Night

He said that the chief problem with enforcing the present ordinance is that the majority of the more lurid magazines are handled by "fly by night" distributors, who are difficult to stop.

"Don't you think the ordinance as proposed here is pretty broad?" Councilman Victor Benstead objected.

"I don't feel it's right to put the material where teenagers can get it," Dr. Cortum replied.

"Some of these suggestions appear to be completely illegal," Mayor Albert Isen pointed out. "I'm not in favor of infringing on anybody's rights."

New Plans Asked for Library

Architect Marion J. Varner promised to return revised plans for the proposed library in El Retiro Park in a week or two, after the original drawings were rejected by the Library Commission.

Main objection the commission and the Hollywood Riviera Art Jury has to the plans for the \$35,000 structure, was the flat roof and off-sets in the floor plan, which were termed as "too commercial" looking.

William Hanson chairman of the commission, said that Varner had rushed through the plans before the Art Jury had inspected them for suggestions.

The City Council instructed Varner to revise the plans and include a pitch roof, square off the floor plan, and limit the floor space to a total of 3000 square feet.

Council Praised In Sewer Change

Applause greeted the city Council action in redistributing costs of the Hollywood Riviera Sewer District No. 2, Wednesday.

Several property owners had objected to what they claimed was unfair assessment under the former plan prepared by the city.

Under the new assessment all residential lots will be charged an equal share of the cost. There are approximately 700 homes involved in the district.



ZOOLOGY CLUB—Lionel Livingston, a student at South High School, is guest lecturer at Zoology Club where he shows youngsters the anatomy of a grasshopper, with live specimen and diagrams.

Bids Received on City Yard Building

Bids for the construction of a steel building at the City Yard were received by the City Council Wednesday and referred to City Manager George Stevens for recommendation.

The offer ranged from a low of \$61,000 to a high of \$99,000 for the pre-fab structure.

Bids were also opened for a street department tractor and three gas ranges for the Civic Auditorium.



PHYSICS CLUB—Teacher Richard Miller, flanked by Art Linemayer, 14, left, and Kenneth Stokes, 12, shows experiment in weight multiplication during physics club demonstration.



FRENCH CLUB—Listening to a recording of conversational French is the language club under direction of Mrs. Ellen Booz. Part of practice is to engage in conversation with each other. Clockwise around table are Mrs. Booz, Lane Ongstad, Jerry Manning, Tommy Haynes, Dana Edward Foy, Bill Besmond, Mike Finck, David Palmer.



OFF HE GOES—Pierce Venable, of 5419 Sharynne Lane, says goodbye to son, Jamie, 3, as he takes off for Galveston, Tex., in Mobil Gas Economy Run. This year's event will take five days. Venable is a sales engineer for SPS-Western of Santa Ana.